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INFORMATIONAL NOTICE

TO: Participating Medical Assistance Providers

RE: DELAYED IMPLEMENTATION - Discontinuation of Coverage of Certain Over-the-Counter (OTC) Drugs

The Department has delayed implementation of the discontinuation of coverage of certain over-the-counter (OTC) drugs. The effective date has been moved to August 1, 2005.

Effective August 1, 2005, the department will discontinue coverage of certain over-the-counter (OTC) drugs for adults age 21 and over. Drugs in the therapeutic classes listed below will be affected by the new policy. For classes where the effective date is a date other than August 1, the effective date is noted.

Antacids/Acid Reducers (Effective September 1, 2005)

Artificial Tears

Iron Replacement

Laxatives

Lice Treatment

Non-Sedating Antihistamines

Pain Relief/Analgesics

Saline Nasal Spray

Topical Antibiotic Preparations

Topical Antifungal Preparations

Topical Hydrocortisone Preparations

Prior approval requests for adults age 21 and over for OTC drugs in the above classes will not be accepted.

There will be no changes to coverage of OTC drugs for children under the age of 21. Prior approval requests for OTC drugs for children will continue to be accepted.